

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Files

DATE: 18 October 1955

FROM :

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SUBJECT: TSS Infrared Communications Development Activity - Status Report

1. General - A meeting was held during the morning of 17 October 1955 with [] APD/TSS to discuss a proposal for new equipment from the Raytheon Manufacturing Corporation and also to inquire into the present status of other infrared work being undertaken by that company under TSS sponsorship.

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2. New Equipment - New equipment being sought by the Office of Communications consists of additional units of the short range IR device which was packaged by [] on a crash basis for briefcase dimensions and is presently in []. A single modification of the equipment is to consist of the installation of a "gunsight" telescope for visual alignment. [] was phoned, and quotations were requested for quantities of 5, 10, 15, and 20 units with an estimated delivery schedule for the above quantities.

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3. Long Range Production Units - [] advised that six units have been shipped; seven will be shipped by the end of the week; and the balance of 6 units will be shipped prior to the end of October. Of the initial six units, it is planned to make two available for [] two for additional OC tests, and two will be loaned to TSS. Several improvements have been incorporated in the production units. These include an improved nighttime viewer, a gunsight daylight alignment telescope, stronger bellows, stronger tripod legs, and a reduction in the number of cover catches. This unit will be available for inspection shortly.

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4. Operating Manual - The operating manual which is elementary in nature contains no maintenance instructions, but will include a complete schematic. Delivery is anticipated by 1 January 1956.

5. Maintenance Manual - TSS has initiated a separate Task Order for manufacturing drawings and a comprehensive maintenance manual. The Task Order is in the process of contractual negotiations. It is not believed that the maintenance manual will be available for six months.

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6. Damaged Briefcase Unit - It was stated earlier that the Laboratory repackaged briefcase unit damaged in transit and returned to [] would be repaired and delivered simultaneously with the production units. [] said that both time and lack of funds made the delivery of this unit doubtful. The undersigned stressed the need for briefcase equipment and asked that an effort be made to repair the damaged unit and indicated that this office could make the necessary funds available. [] utilized available funds to improve the long range equipment.) [] thought the required funds would be available from other outstanding Task Orders and that the unit could be repaired as soon as the long range units were completed (end of October).

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7. Service Contract - TSS is awarding a Task Order to [] as a Service Contract which includes the training of three Agency personnel. The training course is to last two to three weeks at Raytheon's Chicago facility.

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8. Proposal for new "Short Range" IR device - The proposal has been accepted by TSS without major amendment and a contract is in the process of negotiation.

9. Comment - It would appear that TSS prefers travelling trained technicians to perform maintenance chores rather than relying on a comprehensive maintenance manual; hence the training provision in their Task Order, paragraph 7 above, and other than simultaneous delivery of an instruction manual with the equipment as generally required by OC. The undersigned visited [] on 24 and 25 August 1955 and, at that time, reviewed a preliminary draft of the operating manual and considered it unsatisfactory. (See Trip Report dated 30 August 1955.) In order that a maintenance manual be made available expeditiously, it is suggested that should it be desired to have any OC-E personnel attend the maintenance course, the draft of a comprehensive maintenance manual might be prepared simultaneously with instruction course attendance, and thus provide an instruction book six months earlier than the one to be written by []

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